

ABSTRACT

Include Figure 1

5 A point-to-multipoint network arrangement, method of operation and related
signals for a network comprising a head-end station and at least one subscriber
station connected to the head-end by means of a shared medium high-speed
point-to-multipoint network (preferably a passive optical network). The method
involves transmitting data upstream using a packet-switched transport protocol
(e.g. Ethernet) over TDMA. By using high-speed upstream transmission with
relatively long time slots and relatively short guard bands, the need for complex
10 ranging schemes is obviated.